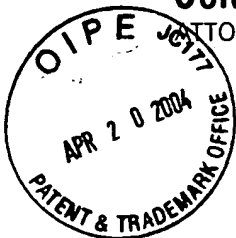




ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Robert Greene Sterne  
Edward J. Kessler  
Jorge A. Goldstein  
David K.S. Cornwell  
Robert W. Esmond  
Tracy-Gene G. Durkin  
Michele A. Cimbala  
Michael B. Ray  
Robert E. Sokohl  
Eric K. Steffe  
Michael Q. Lee  
Steven R. Ludwig  
John M. Covert  
Linda E. Alcorn  
Robert C. Millonig  
Donald J. Featherstone  
Lawrence B. Bugaisky  
Michael V. Messinger

Judith U. Kim  
Timothy J. Shea, Jr.  
Patrick E. Garrett  
Heidi L. Kraus  
Edward W. Yee  
Albert L. Ferro  
Donald R. Banowitz  
Peter A. Jackman  
Teresa U. Medler  
Jeffrey S. Weaver  
Kendrick P. Patterson  
Vincent L. Capuano  
Eldora Ellison Floyd  
Thomas C. Fiala  
Brian J. Del Buono  
Virgil Lee Beason  
Kimberly N. Reddick  
Theodore A. Wood

Elizabeth J. Haanes  
Joseph S. Ostroff  
Frank R. Cottingham  
Christine M. Lhulier  
Rae Lynn Prengaman  
Jane Shershenovich  
George S. Bardmesser  
Daniel A. Klein  
Jason D. Eisenberg  
Michael D. Specht  
Andrea J. Kamage  
Tracy L. Muller  
LuAnne M. DeSantis  
John J. Figueroa  
Ann E. Summerfield  
Tiera S. Coston  
Aric W. Ledford  
Jessica L. Parezo

Timothy A. Doyle\*  
Gabry L. Longworth\*  
Nicole D. Dretar\*  
Ted J. Ebersole  
Jyoti C. Iyer\*  
**Registered Patent Agents\***  
Karen R. Markowicz  
Nancy J. Leith  
Helene C. Carlson  
Matthew J. Dowd  
Aaron L. Schwartz  
Katrina Y. Pei Quach  
Bryan L. Skelton  
Robert A. Schwartzman  
Teresa A. Colella  
Jeffrey S. Lundgren  
Victoria S. Rutherford

Eric D. Hayes  
Michelle K. Holoubek  
Robert H. DeSelms  
Simon J. Elliott  
Julie A. Heider  
Mita Mukherjee  
Scott M. Woodhouse

**Of Counsel**  
Kenneth C. Bass III  
Evan R. Smith  
Marvin C. Guthrie

\* Admitted only in Maryland  
\* Admitted only in Virginia  
\* Practice Limited to  
Federal Agencies

April 20, 2004

**WRITER'S DIRECT NUMBER:**  
(202) 772-8629

**INTERNET ADDRESS:**  
DONF@SKGF.COM

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Art Unit 2819**

Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application  
Application No. 10/697,289; Filed: October 31, 2003  
For: **Coupling of Signals Between Adjacent Functional Blocks in a  
Integrated Circuit Chip**  
Inventors: Catalasan *et al.*  
Our Ref: 1875.4360005

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. Form PTO-1449 listing the cited documents (1 page);
3. Copies of the three (3) cited documents; and
4. Return postcard

It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents  
April 20, 2004  
Page 2

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald J. Featherstone", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Donald J. Featherstone  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 33,876

DJF/lvt  
254277\_1.DOC



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

CATALASAN *et al.*

Appl. No.: 10/697,289

Filed: October 31, 2003

**For: Coupling of Signals Between  
Adjacent Functional Blocks in an  
Integrated Circuit Chip**

Confirmation No.: 8425

Art Unit: 2819

Examiner: To Be Assigned

Atty. Docket: 1875.4360005

**Information Disclosure Statement**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Listed on accompanying Form PTO-1449 are documents that may be considered material to the examination of this application, in compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98.

Applicants have listed publication dates on the attached PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicants reserve the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent

application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not to rely solely on the material submitted herewith.

Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.
- ☒ 2. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No statement or fee is required.
- ☐ 3. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c). This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection, or Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.
  - ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).

- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ c. Attached is our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 4. Filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d) This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, but before payment of the Issue Fee. Enclosed find our PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p); in addition:
- ☐ a. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign

application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).

- ☐ 5. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.
- ☐ 6. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☒ 7. Copies of documents AR1, AS1, and AT1 are submitted herewith.
- ☐ 8. Copies of the documents were cited by or submitted to the Office in an IDS that complies with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)-(c) in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_, filed \_\_\_\_\_, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Thus, copies of these documents are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- ☒ 9. No copies of U.S. patents and patent application publications cited on the attached Form PTO-1449 are submitted in accordance with 1276 OG 55 because this application was filed after June 30, 2003.
- ☐ 10. It is expected that the examiner will review the prosecution and cited art in the parent application no. \_\_\_\_\_ in accordance with MPEP 2001.06(b), and

indicate in the next communication from the office that the art cited in the earlier prosecution history has been reviewed in connection with the present application.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449, and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



Donald J. Featherstone  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 33,876

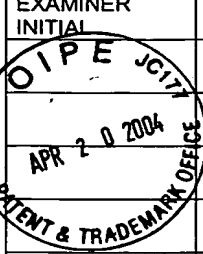
Date: 4/20/04

1100 New York Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20005-3934  
(202) 371-2600

253336\_1.DOC

FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTATTY. DOCKET NO.  
1875.4360005APPLICATION NO.  
10/697,289INVENTORS  
CATALASAN *et al.*FILING DATE  
October 31, 2003ART UNIT  
2819**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA1	5,590,069	12/1996	Levin			
	AB1	5,644,144	07/1997	Ray			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION
	AL						Yes No
	AM						Yes No
	AN						Yes No
	AO						Yes No
	AP						Yes No

**OTHER (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)**

	AR	1	Catalasan <i>et al.</i> , U.S. Patent Appl. No. 10/697,079, filed October 31, 2003, entitled "Memory Cell For Modification Of Revision Identifier In An Integrated Circuit Chip," 54 pages.
	AS	1	Catalasan <i>et al.</i> , U.S. Patent Appl. No. 10/697,889, filed October 31, 2003, entitled "Method For Manufacturing A Memory Cell For Modification Of Revision Identifier In An Integrated Circuit Chip," 53 pages.
	AT	1	Catalasan <i>et al.</i> , U.S. Patent Appl. No. 10/697,286, filed October 31, 2003, entitled "Memory Cell For Modification Of Default Register Values In An Integrated Circuit Chip," 59 pages.

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

**EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.